

into consideration in appointing the present incumbent. I am satisfied that she is fully qualified.

SRIMATIS SAKAMMA and KAMALAMMA DASAPPA (Women's Interest).—

Q. —53. Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) (i) How many hospitals are there in the State; how many of them are (ii) Government institutions, (iii) Local fund institutions and (iv) Mission institutions ?

(b) In how many hospitals are there lady doctors ?

(c) (i) In how many hoblis are there certificated midwives, (ii) in how many hoblis do they not exist ?

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—53. (a) (i) 268, (ii) 28, (iii) 208, (iv) 7.

(In addition to these there are 25 other dispensaries including Public Works and Railway Dispensaries.)

(b) In 32 hospitals and dispensaries.

(c) (i) In 194 hoblis inclusive of the taluk head-quarter hoblis.

(ii) In 186 hoblis.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Srimati Sakamma.—

Is it not desirable to have a larger number of women's hospitals?

Dewan.—

It is desirable but the increase can only be gradual.

Srimati Sakamma.—

How long would it take to do it?

Dewan.—

It is difficult to say. More funds and qualified lady doctors are necessary. Government are giving scholarships to lady candidates taking up the medical profession.

Srimati Sakamma.—

Would it not be possible to grant scholarships to some more women?

Senior Surgeon.—

If there are women candidates forthcoming, you can send them to me and I shall take all necessary steps. For the current year, there were four scholarships for lady candidates; but, as a matter of fact, only three lady candidates applied, with the result that the remaining scholarship had to be given to a male candidate. If only lady candidates are forthcoming, we can give them stipends, and after passing, they can be taken to service immediately.

Srimati Sakamma.—

Are not the residents of a number of villages put to inconvenience for want of midwives? Cannot the Government grant scholarships for the training of midwives?

Senior Surgeon.—

If the District Boards are prepared to pay for the extra midwives, they will be appointed. Twenty-eight scholarships are granted by Government for training of midwives every year.

Capt. Y. V. Ayya.—

Is it not desirable to press the District Boards to provide midwives in as many places as possible?

Senior Surgeon.—

We will address the District Boards in the matter.

Mr. H. C. Dasappa.—

Should there not be a midwife for every hobli?

Second Member of Council.—

It is desirable. But, it is a matter for the District Boards. The Senior Surgeon says that, if District Boards apply, he will be able to find women to take up the work. We may however circularise the District Boards also.

Mr. G. Mallanna.—

In view of the poor financial condition of the District Boards, will the Government kindly come forward to pay one-half of the salaries of midwives?

Second Member of Council.—

You are suggesting a new question of policy which I am not in a position to discuss here.

Mr. B. Gopalachar.—

If the District Boards have not got the required funds, is it not possible for Government themselves to provide midwives from the Malnad Improvement Fund?

First Member of Council.—

The matter may be discussed by the Malnad Improvement Committee and proposals sent up.

Mr. B. Gopalachar.—

Is there a possibility of such a proposal being sanctioned?

Dewan.—

We shall certainly consider the question.

At this stage, the Dewan informed the House that Mr. H. B. Gundappa had given notice of a motion to adjourn the business of the House to discuss the question of the conversion of a large number of Incomplete Middle Schools into Primary Schools. He added that the motion had been admitted by him as President, and enquired if the House was prepared to discuss it. On more than 50 members consenting, the motion was reserved for discussion at 4 o'clock the same day.

RESOLUTIONS—(Contd.)

Resolution No. 3.

MR. GUNDAPPA moved.—

“ That this Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the District Boards may be allowed to have their own Engineering establishments.”

In moving it, he said that the practice in all the eight districts was to allow the District Boards to entrust all their works to the Government Public Works Department and make payments when final bills were presented to them. The President of a District Board had no power to scrutinise the estimates or the final bills. He had no intimation as to when the metal was going to be collected, when consolidation was going to be done, etc., and even his inspection notes were of no practical use. A President might take objection to an estimate or bill because of want of proper details; but when a final bill was received, the amount had simply to be paid in spite of such defects; otherwise, the engineering officers